Dear Parent/Guardian,

RE: INTERSCHOOL DEBATING COMPETITION
FROM 23 MARCH – 3 AUGUST 2016

Your son has expressed interest in participating in the Interschool Debating Competition run by the Debating Association of Victoria (DAV). The competition provides a fantastic opportunity for boys to develop confidence in oral presentation, and develop thinking and analytical skills – skills which are essential far beyond school.

Participation in the team would require a level of commitment from you and your son. You will be responsible for the transport of your son to and from the debates. The debates take place at Brighton Grammar School, Outer Crescent, Brighton, in the evening at either 7:00 or 8:00 pm (depending upon your son’s year level) and last for approximately one hour. The competition is comprised of five debates (excluding finals) over the course of the year.

Dates for each of the rounds for 2016 are as follows:

Round 1..........Wednesday 23rd March
Round 2..........Wednesday 27 April
Round 3..........Wednesday 1 June
Round 4..........Wednesday 20 July
Round 5..........Wednesday 3 August

To prepare for the debates, your son will need to attend regular meetings with his teacher mentor and team mates. These will usually occur at lunch time, but may sometimes be held after school. In addition to these meetings, he will be expected to research topics and write and practice speeches.

Please note that the DAV severely penalises any school which forfeits a debate. The school is fined and any team that forfeits twice is automatically suspended from the competition. If your son agrees to accept a place in the SBC DAV Squad for 2016, it is paramount that this is noted. **Should your son be unable to fulfil a debating commitment across the season, he will be expected to arrange an alternative rotation with his team members, and notify the teacher mentor and myself as soon as the swap is made.**

Please take the time to discuss the competition and the level of commitment this requires with your son. Please fill out the attached slip and **return** it to Ms Kaylene Menara by **Monday 22 February 2016**. I can be contacted during school hours, kam@stbedes.catholic.edu.au, should you have any further questions.

Kind Regards,

Kaylene Menara
Debating Co-ordinator
I have read the attached information regarding the School Debating Team and the DAV Inter-School Debating Competition.

My son: __________________________________________ of __________ has permission to participate.

His mobile phone contact is __________________________________________ (to be held by teacher mentors in confidence, and only to be used should the need arise on competition evenings).

Name: _______________________________ Signature: _______________________________  
Parent / Guardian

**ILLNESS**

Should my son become ill or suffer an accident during the course of any of these activities and the teacher in charge is unable to contact me, I authorise the teacher to consent to my son receiving such medical or surgical treatment as a doctor may deem necessary. I will meet the expense attached to any such medical assistance.

Name: _______________________________ Signature: _______________________________  
Parent / Guardian

Date: __/__/___

Phone No: ___________________ Mobile: __________  _____________________

**CONTACT PERSON IF PARENT / GUARDIAN IS UNAVAILABLE**

Name: _______________________________ Contact Phone No: ___________________